

REMARKS

The Applicants respectfully request further examination and consideration of the claims in view of the above amendments. Claims 1-38 were pending in this application. Claims 1-8, 12-27 and 31-38 have been rejected and Claims 9-11 and 28-30 have been objected to. The Applicants have canceled Claims 9 and 28 and have amended Claims 1, 10, 11, 20, 29 and 30. Accordingly, Claims 1-8, 10-27 and 29-38 are currently pending in this application.

With the Office Action mailed September 8, 2005, it was stated that Claims 9-11 and 28-30 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. By the above amendments, Applicants have incorporated the limitations of Claim 9 into Claim 1 and the limitations of Claim 28 into Claim 20. Therefore, the independent Claims 1 and 20 are in condition for allowance.

Claims 2-8 and 10-19 are dependent upon the independent claim 1. As discussed above, the independent claim 1 is allowable. Accordingly, claims 2-8 and 10-19 are also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

Claims 21-27 and 29-38 are dependent upon the independent claim 20. As discussed above, the independent claim 20 is allowable. Accordingly, claims 21-27 and 29-38 are also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

For the reasons given above, the Applicants respectfully submit that the Claims 1-8, 10-27 and 29-38 are in a condition for allowance, and allowance at an early date would be appreciated. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (408) 530-9700 to discuss the same so that any outstanding issues can be expeditiously resolved.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: 12-8-05

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR § 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

HAVERSTOCK & OWENS LLP.

Date: 12-8-05 By: 